

## HERITAGE TRAIL IN KATANNING

This trail includes many examples of early federation buildings built around the turn of the century, when the railway from Perth to Albany was completed and the township came to be.

Long before European settlement the area was called KAAT-NYINY, a local Noongar word meaning the head sits here. It was the junction of three different Aboriginal tribal groups whose boundaries merged at the *Kaatanup Springs*, an important trading place.

There are more than 109 heritage listed buildings and places in Katanning including buildings, structures, gardens, cemeteries, memorials, landscapes and archaeological sites.

The heritage trail is approximately 2km.

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**Katanning**  
**HERITAGE TRAIL**

### 01. KATANNING HOTEL



The original single-storey wood and iron hotel was erected in 1889 by the Piesse Brothers, but it was burnt to the ground in a fire in 1893. The hotel was rebuilt on its present site in 1898 and Mr George McLeod Jnr purchased the goodwill and freehold.

### 02. FORMER F & C PIESSE STORE



In 1901, the Piesse brothers erected this complex, the third and finest of their stores. From here the Piesse brothers continued their successful trading operations until 1904 when Robert Lawson became known as Richardson & Co. Extensive additions and alterations were carried out to the building in 1927.

### 03. PREMIER MILL



The Piesse Brothers decided to open a flour mill in Katanning after viewing the modern roller mill in Northam, constructed by the Byfield Family in 1890. It opened in 1891 and had only taken some 15 weeks to build. It continued as a flour mill until the mid 1970s. The mill's power plant supplied electricity to the town until the mid 1960s. The mill sat empty and derelict until it was purchased by the Dome Group in 2016. The unique refurbishment, that includes a cafe and wine bar, preserves many of the details of the working mill.

### 06. KATANNING ART GALLERY



The Katanning Library and Art Gallery was built in 1999 and showcases multiple exhibitions throughout the year.

### 05. THE KATANNING TOWN HALL



Located in Austral Street, the huge Katanning Town Hall, which was originally the Katanning Agricultural Town Hall, was made possible when F&C Piesse donated 10,000 bricks and voluntary labour to help with the construction of the building. The foundation stone was laid on 22nd August 1896 by the Hon F H Piesse, MLA, and it was officially opened in 1897. By 1899 it was known as the Mechanics Institute after the two parties amalgamated.

### 08. UNITING CHURCH



Located on Taylor Street, the old Presbyterian Church (now the Uniting Church) was built in 1906 and is described by the State Heritage Council as "a brick and corrugated iron building of Federation Gothic design. It has a prominent zinc clad spire protruding from a battlemented campanile." Additions have been made to the north-east side of the original church building.

### 07. ST ANDREWS CHURCH BAND HALL

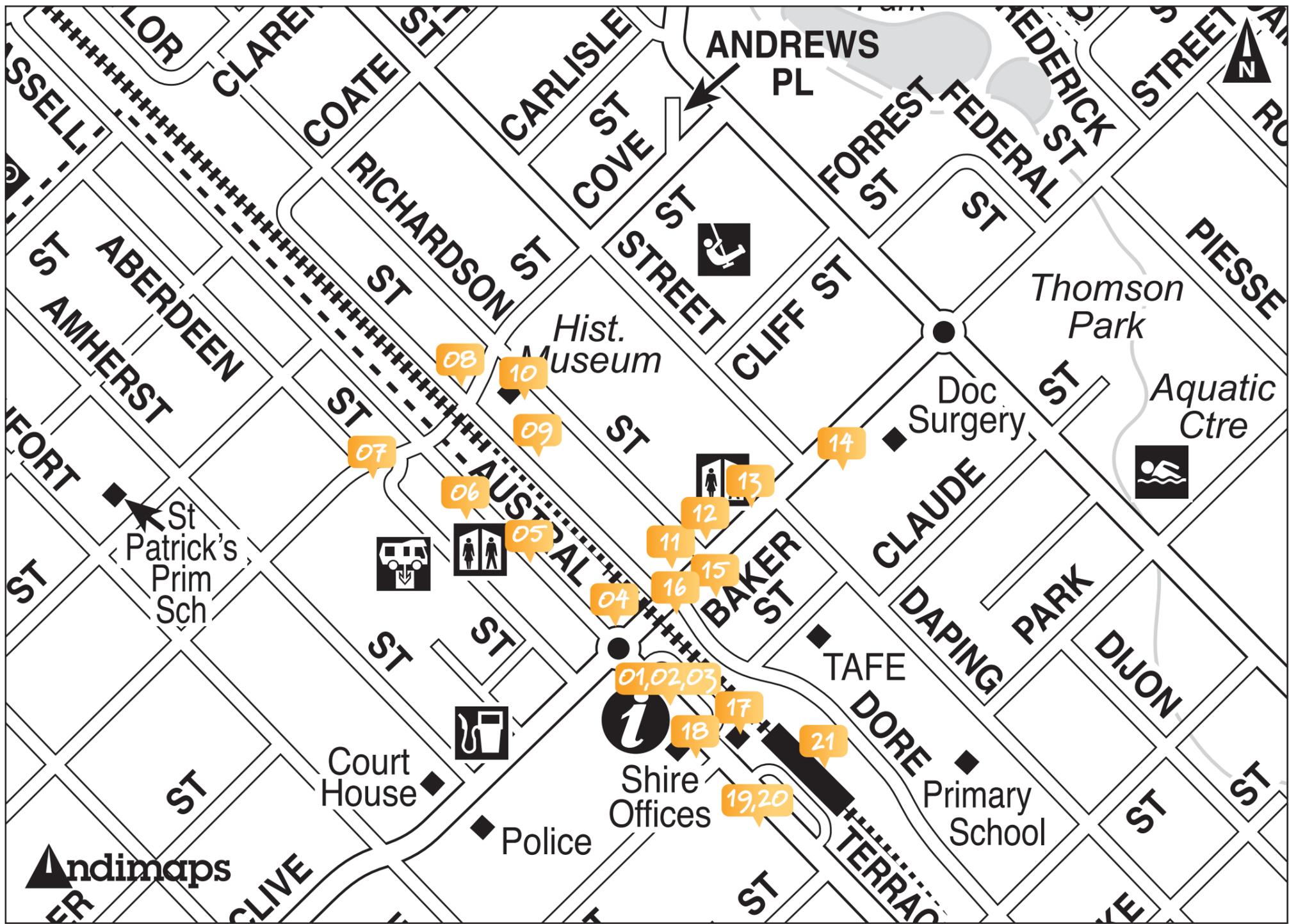


Located on Arbour Street, St Andrews Church is the oldest church in Katanning. It was opened by Mrs F H Piesse in 1898. Her husband had donated 40,000 bricks. The pews are made from imported New Zealand kauri. The roof and floor are made of jarrah, a gift from the Millar brothers, and the porch is laid with Milton tiles. The Chancel window was erected in 1910 and this window, together with the brass plaque by the organ loft, was erected in memory of the Piesse family. The Church Hall was completed in 1911.

### 09. KATANNING MUSEUM



The Katanning Historical Society was founded in 1937 and is believed to be the oldest affiliated society in W.A. The museum, which is run by the society, has been in the old school since 1965. This building was the first purpose built school in Katanning, constructed in 1894.



**10. WAKE'S GARAGE**

Established in 1938, Wakes Garage is the last existing dirt floor garage in Western Australia. It is the home of the first orbital engine invented which sits on its original workbench.



**14. THE BANK BUILDING**

This building was constructed in 1909 and, although it has never housed banking institutions, it has been utilised for other commercial purposes. It has been the site of a bakery and still contains the original baker's oven.



**18. THE KING GEORGE HOSTEL**

The hostel, opened in 1913, was built by Alexander Thomson for Melville Piessie. Katanning was experiencing a boom in farming at this time and accommodation became necessary for the influx of workers. The hostel is largely in original condition on the outside but has been renovated inside.



**11. THE FEDERAL HOTEL**

The hotel was constructed for Alfred Pearmine in 1904 as a two-storey hotel and was the third hotel built in Katanning. In 1907 the hotel passed into the hands of the Fairclough family who added the third storey in 1913. The family name is still seen on this part of the hotel. The Faircloughs stayed on until the early 1920s. The next licensee of the Federal was Lou Hambley, who ran the hotel from about World War II until the early 1960s.



**15. COMMONWEALTH BANK**

Originally the site of Beeck's Saddlery (1900) the bank was built in 1937 and is a rare and relatively intact example of a substantial two-storey building designed in the Interwar Art Deco style.



**19. FORMER STOCK & TRADING CO**

In 1905 A E Piessie and Company was established in Austral Terrace with offices and a showroom. The company provided farm, building equipment and the timber and stock yards were located on the corner of the building.



**12. POST OFFICE**

This post office was constructed by Mr J Park in 1913. It included a Telephone Exchange, weather equipment and stores for the railway workers. Since being built, the original interior walls have been removed, the telephone rooms demolished and the private boxes relocated.



**16. MEMORIAL ROSE GARDEN**

A rose garden commemorating those who served in World War One and the signing of the Armistice on the 11th November 1918.



**20. ROYAL EXCHANGE HOTEL**

The former Railway Hotel, Katanning's second hotel, opened its doors in 1891. Richard Bell was the first publican. In 1899 a new Royal Exchange hotel was built but in 1905 a fire badly damaged the hotel. At this time the building was enlarged and modernised.



**13. FORMER UNION BANK / ANZ BANK**

Built in 1911 this well-proportioned two-storey building in the Federation Free Classical style served as the ANZ Bank for 95 years.



**17. F.H PIESSIE MEMORIAL**

The statue was erected after the death of Mr Piessie in 1912. The statue stands in front of the railway station to commemorate Mr Piessie's efforts as a founding father of Katanning.



**21. RAILWAY STATION**

The original railway station was constructed early in 1889 when the railway line was established. In 1890 the first school classes were held in the station's former corrugated iron kitchen until the first purpose-built school opened in 1894. Passenger travel discontinued in the 1960's and the station was subsequently used for goods services only.

